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ALARUM TO PAMPHLETEERS; OR THE DANGER OF AN Habeas Corpus;

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A *ſerious* and *ſeaſonable* advice to Anti-temporizing *Scriblers*, to deſiſt in time, leaſt they untimely be forc'd to ſing their own Obſequies, and write with their own Pens in Diſmall Characters their own EPITAPHS.

By *R. B. H.*

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An Alarum to Pamphleteers; Or the danger of an Habeas Corpus, &c.

NO sooner is the Sun set, and that Twi-light invades our Horizon, but the Owles that are pur-blind by light, flutter abroad, hooping in every Ivie-bush. Whole legions of Beetles hum and buz, keeping consort with croaking Froggs in Ditches: Thus it is, when there's a mutation in State Affairs, the Press presently groans in the bringing forth such a numberless quantity of Spurious Paper Bratts, by which meanes Paper becomes to be excessive dear, and Gold finders quickly grow rich in the so often emptying of those Privies, State biting or scurrulous Pamphlets dam up: But let them beware they imitate not too much the silly Moths, that never leave flying about the Candle

dle till they have (at leaſt) ſcorcht their wings, I cannot but laugh when I think into what a deep ſilence and panniek fear, they'l be all thrown into when there ſhall be one of them caught, and for an example to the reſt ſhall be hanged up with his Pen, in his eare, as a demonſtration of his fault: As yet they multiply dayly, and fight ſtoutly in their *Billingſgate*-Language; ſome whereof ſhould they but ſee a Sword drawn, would be in a far more affrighted and amazed condition, then the *Indians* were in, when they firſt heard the *Spaniſh*-Guns: Nay, I durſt ſay, That it would make ſome of them run to *Pegg-Trantums* and that's five miles beyond Hell, without ſo much as once looking behind them. They veriſie old *Naſis* verſe.

Tutuis eſt igitur ſictis contendere verbis.
Quam pugnare manu——————

'Tis ſafer far to fight with words,
Then to contend with killing ſwords.

Theſe fellowes now make it a matter of nothing, to ſpeak Treaſon in the Superlative degree, as firſt they muſt needs forſooth be medling with our Grave, Wiſe, and Gray-Headed Citizens, for taxing unworthily Alderman *T.* for having no beard, whereas it may be his Barbers fault: Grant it were not ſo, and that he never had any, what can he help it? *Nam genus & Barbam & quæ non fecimus ipſi,*

Vix ea nostra voco——

And so likewise Alderman *A*——. that leavs a sweet smelling savour of piety behind him where ever he goes. And yet for all their high vaunting & seditious words, would rather hang then act any such thing really, and yet take the liberty upon them to reprehend others for their dull, slavish, and unactive Spirits. But I mistake their intent, they foolishly apprehend Treason is in fashion, and that the Promoters of sedition and confusion, are the onely persons that are now regarded or esteemed. And they forsooth must needs be in the number, men of the times, and are willing to venter the cracking of a Neck, rather then to want that which must procure Liquor to swill the Gullet: It seems they find this kind of libelling a ready money commodity, otherwise we should not have half so many of them. Well I can resemble these snarling fellowes to nothing so properly as to Currs that (when they have no other object) will bark against the Moon, and retaining the same nature of the beast will bite at that stone that is thrown at them, though they indanger the breaking of their grinders.

Alas poor Pigg-wiggen myrmidons, you must be Jocky like correctors, and cousers of every mans actions without the indeavouring to reform your own. Yee are like the rest of the wavering and giddy multitude, whose small spark of understanding being dimm'd and obscured with the mist of prejudice, and darkned with the Cloud of passionate affections, judge of matters and persons, (that are so high they seem but very little to you) onely I say by your sensitive

ſitive apprehenſion; And being not able of your ſelves to look into the debts of PARLIAMENTARY and ARMY politick deſigns and actions, then the ſuperficial bark will ſuffer the eye of your internal ſenſe to pierce into them, do by reaſon thereof even calumniate virtue it ſelf. Becauſe ſome high perſons now have been heretofore low; their ſtupid ſconces thinks no other, but they muſt needs have the ſame low minds and uncoath diſpoſitions ſtill. It is not what we have been, but what we are that ſhall ſpeak for us or againſt us. True worth may chance a long time to lurk under an obſcure cobling bulk, or under a dirty frock, and perhaps in the form of a ſecuring man, or elſe may be hid under a great heap of Thimbles and Bodkins, or ſome ſuch light things; but when goodneſs and virtue ſhall hack and hew their way through theſe impediments and obſcurities, you may then plainly ſee (as now we do) goodneſs, virtue, piety, religion, and zealous, yet profound policy, ſhine as bright as the Sun in Velvit Jackets, though others indeed by ſome fatal neceſſity muſt eatne be content, (ſince they cannot help it) to ſhine no brighter then the Sun, when he is eclipſed. If our Rulers were low, and are now riſen, it was by ſome meanes; if ſo, then teathly it may be by their proper worth. But grant that the Devils temptations ſhould be ſo ſtrong, as to be poſſibly able to ſtaine their red white ſoules with any fault; what Man is there that dares come perſonally to delect or correct them? It may be who ſo e're thou art that durſt doe it, thou haſt faults of thine owne, as well as they

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and therefore can'ſt not be a convenient Perſon. For I ſhould think that the preſenting of Phyſick to a ſick Parient in an ugly and filthy forme and faſhion, may at leaſt occaſion diſtaſt in the Perſon, if not utter refuſall. For τὰ καλὰ καλῶς γινόμενα καλὰ φαίνεται Good things looſe the grace of their goodneſſe, when they are not performed in that manner that is convenient, or when by good and convenient Perſons, they be not propounded. Wherefore ἵνα μὴ ἀκούσῃ σὺ αὐτὰ, that it may not be ſaid of thee;

Cladius accuſat Machos, Catalina Cothegum.

It is an excellent harmony paralell with that of the Spheres, to ſee a mutuall concent of workes and words, I ſpeak in generall, and that they walk hand in hand, accompanyed with verity and ſincerity. The Devill (you have heard) hath transform'd himſelfe into an Angell of light, for a time, but it would have argued a ſtrong deluſion, and very great folly to have then took him to be a Saint, or belonging to ſome holy order, but the Devill a Monk was he. Therefore I ſhould adviſe you not to look on things as they ſeeme to be, but as they really are. The Harpies have vultures talons, yet they have Virgin faces, why then may they not have innocent hearts; And as for the *Hyæna*, it hath continually the lookes of a friend, though it devoure like a face, and yet it may not prove ſo. Though perhaps our Governours ſeem like Watermen, that look one way and row the other; you muſt not therefore raſhly judge they will never arrive to their deſired and intended port. But you will object, and ſay that there are too many Scullers in one Boat, which by reaſons of their ſeverall opini-

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ons, one going this way, the other that way, the third contrary to them both, and perhaps the fourth he knows not whither, the fifth it may be would do some thing, if he knew what. To which I answer, that by the multitude of counsell a Nation is oft times preserv'd, for every single Person cannot performe every act, but many together may doe _____ what may they doe? why___ I forgot what I was going to say. But let me tell you what e're I think, that the powerfull hand of irreprovable wisedome hath divided sufficiency in all things into severall persons, and 'tis impossible to finde it epitomiz'd in one single person. And therefore that man doth but manifest his presumptuous arrogancy, that dares to challenge soper-excellency in the performance of all things; as did our P. Monarch K. C. take the P. which way you will, either Proud or Pious. He that will confidently give out that he is eminent in all things, doth thereby secretly insinuate, that he is deficient in most things. But me thinks I hear some privately whispering, that had not our Common-wealths men been ambitious, they would have rested contented in their former states and conditions. Suppose it to be true, what then? are they not here in most like the noble *Romans*, who being emulous of praise, and extraordinary ambitious, were thereby carried on to the effecting of those things, that might be thought impossible for humane weakness to attain to. Death though disguiz'd in the most offrighting vizard, could never defer them from any high archievement, whither pious or impious. So that I shall think with *Tacitus*, *Optimi quiq; mortalium*

sim altissima cupiunt. To conclude glory, and wealth that they might inrich their poor friends, were the only subject of all their differences, and contentions. Why then should we cast an opproprium on our Governours, for that they are somewhat like so victorious and conquering Nation: I must not goe beyond the bonds of the Booksellers prescriptions, not to exceed one sheet; wherefore to fill it up, I shall conclude with some few Queries on some new Books, though I intended to discant on them all.

1. Whither he that wrote the 36. *Queries*, did not like a judicious Asse, propound more in one hower, then all the *Common-wealths-men* could answer all their life time.

2. Whither a word to the purpose, or a Parthian Dart, may not be termed the Fooles bolt that is soon shot.

3. Whither he that wrote the 44. *Queries*, is not more Foole then Knave, since there is seen in them so much of the first, but very little of the other.

4. Whither the Inquirers will not 'ere long verifie the old Proverb, 'Tis good sleeping in a whole skin, since.

5. Lastly, Whither he that tendred 19 Cases for Conscience to *Hugh Peters*, did not do preposterously and absurdly, since all the World knows, that one little Case would have contained all that he ever had. I should have added this *Querie*, whither the Bookseller that printed this sheet, and my Selfe, have not more honestly then we can tell what to doe with all.

FINIS.

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